

REMARKS

In the above-noted Official Action, claims 1-4 and 6-22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over BLACKBURN et al. (U.S. Patent No. 7,012,998). Claim 5 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over BLACKBURN. Each of the above-noted rejections is traversed. As explained herein, BLACKBURN does not disclose, suggest or render obvious the combinations of features recited in the pending claims.

The combination of features in claim 1 is not disclosed, suggested or rendered obvious by the teachings of BLACKBURN. In this regard, BLACKBURN discloses a voice messaging platform 110 that acts as an intelligent peripheral (see, e.g., col. 3, lines 18-23). Nevertheless, BLACKBURN specifically distinguishes between a voice messaging platform and an intelligent peripheral. Accordingly, the voice messaging platform in BLACKBURN does not disclose the "first intelligent peripheral" of claim 1.

Further, even if the voice messaging platform 110 in BLACKBURN were properly considered an intelligent peripheral, the voice messaging platform 110 in BLACKBURN does not disclose the features of the "first intelligent peripheral" recited in claim 1.

For example, the voice messaging platform 110 does not include "a call initiator that establishes a call connection with the second intelligent peripheral". Rather, BLACKBURN explicitly discloses at, e.g., col. 4, lines 38-39 that "the intelligent peripheral 140 then calls the voice messaging platform 110 in the step 240" (emphasis

added). Accordingly, the voice messaging platform of BLACKBURN does not disclose the "call initiator" of claim 1.

Further, BLACKBURN does not include "a determiner that determines whether to contact a second intelligent peripheral based on... interaction with the calling party" as in claim 1. Rather, BLACKBURN discloses, at col. 4, lines 25-31, that the "voice messaging platform 110 determines that resources outside the voice messaging platform 110 are needed" and "the internal controller 120 directs the voice messaging platform 110 to contact the SCP 130 in the step 220". The "SCP 130 preferably identifies an appropriate outside resource to utilize" (emphasis added). Accordingly, the voice messaging platform of BLACKBURN does not disclose the "determiner" of claim 1.

For at least each and all of the reasons set forth above, BLACKBURN does not disclose the combination of features recited in claim 1.

Exemplary claim 7 recites a "method for providing a telecommunications service to a calling party using a plurality of intelligent peripherals". The method of claim 7 includes "receiving a call from the calling party at a first intelligent peripheral that interacts with the calling party; determining whether to contact a second intelligent peripheral based on the interaction with the calling party; and establishing a call connection with the second intelligent peripheral so that the second intelligent peripheral can interact with at least one of the calling party and the first intelligent peripheral to

provide the telecommunications service”.

For reasons similar to those set forth above, the voice messaging platform of BLACKBURN does not disclose or suggest “receiving a call from the calling party at a first intelligent peripheral that interacts with the calling party” as in claim 7. Further, the voice messaging platform of BLACKBURN does not disclose or suggest “determining whether to contact a second intelligent peripheral based on the interaction with the calling party” or “establishing a call connection with the second intelligent peripheral so that the second intelligent peripheral can interact with at least one of the calling party and the first intelligent peripheral to provide the telecommunications service” as in claim 7.

Exemplary claim 14 recites a “computer readable medium that stores a program for providing a telecommunications service to a calling party using a plurality of intelligent peripherals”. The computer readable medium of claim 14 includes “a first call interaction source code segment at a first intelligent peripheral that receives a call from the calling party, the first call interaction source code segment interacting with the calling party; a determining source code segment that determines whether to contact a second intelligent peripheral based on the interaction with the calling party; and a call connection initiating source code segment that initiates a call by establishing a call connection with the second intelligent peripheral so that the second intelligent peripheral interacts with at least one of the calling party and the first intelligent peripheral to provide the telecommunications

service”.

For reasons similar to those set forth above, the voice messaging platform of BLACKBURN does not disclose or suggest “a first call interaction source code segment at a first intelligent peripheral that receives a call from the calling party, the first call interaction source code segment interacting with the calling party” as in claim 14. Further, the voice messaging platform of BLACKBURN does not disclose or suggest “a determining source code segment that determines whether to contact a second intelligent peripheral based on the interaction with the calling party” or “a call connection initiating source code segment that initiates a call by establishing a call connection with the second intelligent peripheral so that the second intelligent peripheral interacts with at least one of the calling party and the first intelligent peripheral to provide the telecommunications service” as in claim 14.

Exemplary claim 6 recites a “telecommunications system for providing a telecommunications service to a calling party”. The telecommunications system of claim 6 includes “a first intelligent peripheral that receives a call from a calling party; and a second intelligent peripheral, the first intelligent peripheral interacting with the calling party and determining whether to contact the second intelligent peripheral based on the interaction with the calling party, the first intelligent peripheral establishing a call connection with the second intelligent peripheral so that the second intelligent peripheral

can interact with at least one of the calling party and the first intelligent peripheral to provide the telecommunications service".

For reasons similar to those set forth above, the voice messaging platform of BLACKBURN does not disclose or suggest "a first intelligent peripheral that receives a call from a calling party" as in claim 6. Further, the voice messaging platform of BLACKBURN does not disclose a "first intelligent peripheral interacting with the calling party and determining whether to contact the second intelligent peripheral based on the interaction with the calling party" or "the first intelligent peripheral establishing a call connection with the second intelligent peripheral so that the second intelligent peripheral can interact with at least one of the calling party and the first intelligent peripheral to provide the telecommunications service" as in claim 6.

Exemplary claim 19 recites a "computer readable medium that stores a program for providing a telecommunications service to a calling party using a plurality of intelligent peripherals". The computer readable medium of claim 19 includes "a call connection initiating source code segment at a first intelligent peripheral that receives a call from a second intelligent peripheral so that the first intelligent peripheral can interact with at least one of the calling party and the second intelligent peripheral to provide the telecommunications service; and a call interaction source code segment at the first intelligent peripheral, the call interaction source code segment interacting with at least

one of the calling party and the second intelligent peripheral”.

For reasons similar to those set forth above, the voice messaging platform of BLACKBURN does not disclose or suggest “a call connection initiating source code segment at a first intelligent peripheral that receives a call from a second intelligent peripheral so that the first intelligent peripheral can interact with at least one of the calling party and the second intelligent peripheral to provide the telecommunications service” as in claim 19. Further, the voice messaging platform of BLACKBURN does not disclose or suggest “a call interaction source code segment at the first intelligent peripheral, the call interaction source code segment interacting with at least one of the calling party and the second intelligent peripheral” as in claim 19.

Accordingly, BLACKBURN does not disclose or suggest the combinations of features recited in the pending independent claims. Therefore, each of the above-noted independent claims is allowable over BLACKBURN, at least for the numerous reasons set forth above. Further, each of claims 2-5, 8-13, 15-18 and 20-22 are allowable at least for depending, directly or indirectly, from an allowable independent claim, as well as for additional reasons related to their own recitations.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

A sincere effort has been made to place the present application in condition for allowance, and Applicant believes that this has now been done. The features recited in the pending claims have been discussed, and Applicant has shown how the combination of features recited in the pending claims are not taught, disclosed nor rendered obvious by the document applied in the Official Action. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections, as well as an indication of the allowance of each of the pending claims, is respectfully requested.

Should there be any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,  
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